



CUYAMACA RANCHO STATE PARK – EQUESTRIAN FAMILY CAMPGROUND REPLACEMENT PROJECT

PUBLIC SCOPING WORKSHOP

JUNE 15, 2006

6 - 8 p.m., San Diego - Mission Valley Marriott

WELCOME,

This packet contains information that goes along with six (6) workshop stations.

There will be no presentation or public speaking at this workshop. Attendants at each station are available to answer questions.

Please progress through the stations at your own pace, but be mindful of the need for others to view each station as well. You do not need to visit the stations in order, and you may leave when you are finished.

Comment sheets are available at each station for you to fill out and submit. Please submit completed comment sheets before you leave by depositing them in the comment collection box provided.

You may also mail comment sheets by June 30, 2006 to:
California State Parks – 8885 Rio San Diego, #270 – San Diego, CA 92108
Attention: Karen Miner/Equestrian Camp

Station 1: Project and Process Overview

Station 2: Arrowmakers Ridge Concept

Station 3: Los Vaqueros North Concept

Station 4: Stonewall Mine/Tapawingo Concept

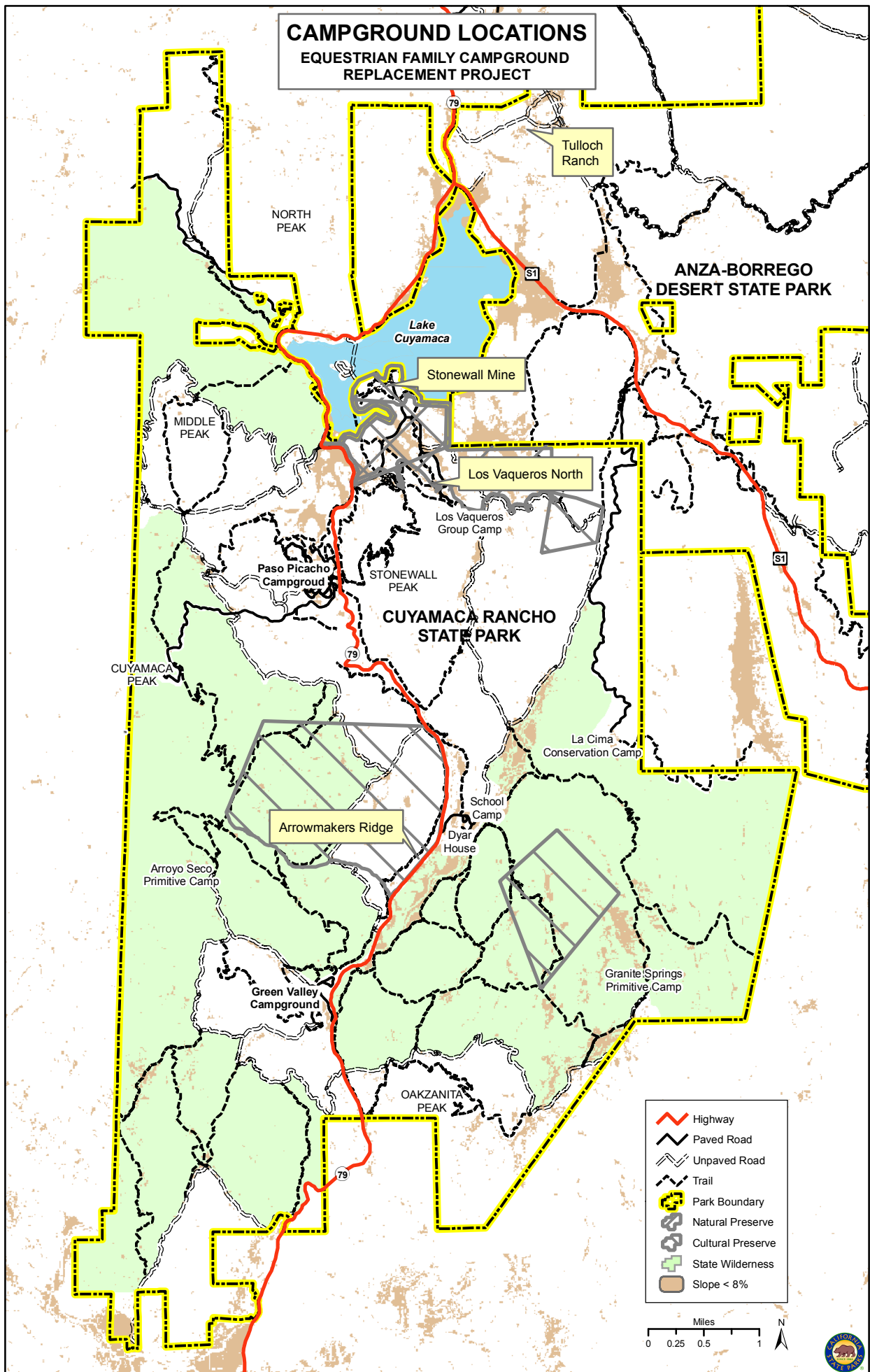
Station 5: Tulloch Ranch Concept

Station 6: Campsite Designs



CAMPGROUND LOCATIONS

EQUESTRIAN FAMILY CAMPGROUND REPLACEMENT PROJECT



- Highway
- Paved Road
- Unpaved Road
- Trail
- Park Boundary
- Natural Preserve
- Cultural Preserve
- State Wilderness
- Slope < 8%

Miles
0 0.25 0.5 1





– FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS –

WHY NOT PUT THE FACILITIES BACK AT LOS CABALLOS?

It's not legally defensible:

- The original campground was built before any of the relevant environmental or cultural laws existed.
- The village site in the vicinity of Los Caballos was registered as a *Sacred Site* in 1994 by the California Native American Heritage Commission. This designation bestows additional state and federal protections including Public Resources Code Section 5097.9-.99; *The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990*; and *American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978*.
- Due to the fire's removal of ground cover, additional archaeological evidence was discovered indicating that the registered sacred site was larger than previously documented, and overlapped with the previously existing campground.
- Parish's meadowfoam, a plant listed as endangered by the State in 1979, grows within and adjacent to the campground in the wet meadow areas.
- The campground could not be re-designed to substantially avoid the resources of concern without losing the rustic character of Los Caballos Equestrian Camp or conflicting with current laws.
- Therefore, legal counsel for California State Parks advised that it is infeasible to keep the facilities at the Los Caballos location.

WHAT CRITERIA WERE USED TO LOCATE AN ALTERNATE LOCATION?

Preliminary criteria included:

- 10-20 acres with substantial areas of less than 8% slope to minimize grading and changes to the land form.
- Close as possible to Los Caballos (northern part of park) to provide similar recreational experience in terms of elevation, woodland, and trail access.
- Within ¼ mile of existing roads and trails, for ease of access.
- Large enough to support 17-18 campsites, or two locations that together could support 18 or more campsites (~10-11 at each).

HOW EASY WILL IT BE TO FIND ANOTHER LOCATION IN CUYAMACA?

Finding another location will be difficult

- Total acres within Cuyamaca Rancho SP = ~24,700
- Of the total, ~13,100 acres are designated as State Wilderness; no development allowed.
- Of the total, ~3,200 acres are designated as Cultural or Natural Preserves. Only development or boundary modifications consistent with the intent of the Preserves are allowed.
- Taking slope, land-use designations, and wetlands into consideration leaves only about 300 acres suitable for development of camping facilities. Existing facilities are also supported on these acres.
- For this reason, the former Tulloch Ranch property adjacent to Cuyamaca Rancho State Park is also being considered as a potential location for the replacement facilities, as well as certain lands currently within the boundaries of Preserves.

WHAT IS THE EXPECTED SCHEDULE FOR THIS PROJECT?

The anticipated process timeline is as follows:

May 2006 – June 2006:

NOP and Public Workshop

July 2006 – November 2006:

Preparation of Draft EIR

November 2006 – December 2006:

Public Review Period for Draft EIR

January 2007 – April 2007:

Finalize EIR & Obtain Project Approvals

April 2007 – November 2007:

Preparation of Contract Documents

November 2007 – January 2009:

Bidding and Construction

Spring Season 2009:

Campground Opening

***PROJECT HISTORY***

In 2003, the Cedar Fire destroyed over 30 facilities in Cuyamaca Rancho State Park. The restrooms, cabin and storage buildings at Los Caballos Equestrian Campground were among the facilities that were destroyed. California State Parks (CSP) planned to restore the facilities at Los Caballos with funding provided by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Replacement of the restroom, with an upgraded facility to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, was started in 2004 at Los Caballos Campground. During reconstruction activities the California Native American Heritage Commission (CNAHC), requested both FEMA and CSP to postpone the reconstruction until an assessment of the environmental impacts could be evaluated. The CNAHC's concerns were based on the reconstruction activities and the overall campground location relative to cultural resources in the area. In response to this request and new resource information, CSP evaluated possible campground reconfigurations.

The Los Caballos site includes a number of constraints (such as cultural, natural, and topographical), which limited the redesign options. Nevertheless, several conceptual reconfigurations were developed and presented to stakeholder groups at focus meetings in late September-October 2005. These stakeholder groups consisted of equestrians, cultural resource professionals, Native Americans, natural resource professionals, and local businesses. The response CSP received during the focus meetings indicated that none of the preliminary concepts were acceptable to the majority of focus group attendees. The campground could not be designed to substantially avoid the resources of concern without losing the rustic character of Los Caballos that was so loved by the users.

Furthermore, the Ah-ha'-Kwe-ah'-mac' village site, which overlaps the Los Caballos campground, is recognized to be especially significant by cultural resource professionals and local tribes of Native Americans. It is this village site for which the area and park was named. In addition, the site was registered as a Sacred Site in 1994 by the CNAHC, the State entity charged with facilitating protection of California's Native American cultural resources in accordance with State and Federal laws. The *Sacred Site* designation of the village site bestows additional protection to the area that includes Los Caballos. Relevant laws include: Public Resources Code Section 5097.9-.99; The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990; and American Indian Religious Freedom Act of 1978. Given the above constraints, restoring the Los Caballos area for camping and day-use parking is infeasible.

Therefore, the Department has determined that it is necessary to search for alternative locations to Los Caballos for the replacement of equestrian family campground facilities in the Cuyamaca Mountains. The project has therefore been renamed the "Equestrian Family Campground Replacement Project." Over the last several months, CSP has been investigating potential alternative locations, with input from both an Equestrian Advisory Group and Native American tribal representatives. Consensus has not been reached as to the best location for the replacement facilities. However, the potential areas have been narrowed down to a few locations for further consideration.

THE SEARCH FOR AN ALTERNATIVE LOCATION

To focus our search we used GIS to determine areas within the 24,700-acre Park, and immediately adjacent lands of Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, that were potentially suitable for development of a 10- to 20-acre equestrian campground. Land areas considered best for development of public facilities were those that had a mix of flat and low relief, were readily accessible from Highway 79 or SR 1 (Sunrise Highway), and were within proximity of multiple riding trails. To screen for suitable locations within the study area we used factors of 8% slope and ¼ mile from roads and trails (see map). Cuyamaca Rancho SP has several additional land use designations contained within its boundaries. Approximately 13,100 acres of the park are designated as State Wilderness, within which development is prohibited. Another approximately 3,200 acres are designated as Natural or Cultural Preserves, restricting development to that which is compatible with the intent of the Preserve. This leaves approximately 795 acres of relatively flat areas that are not designated as wilderness or preserves. About half of this acreage is wetland meadow, unsuitable for use due to soggy conditions and the resource value of the wetlands. However, we did not exclude all preserve acres from consideration if suitably flat areas near roads and trails were available within them.

We solicited campground location input from an Equestrian Advisory Group, Native American representatives, and park staff, and came up with a list of 17 areas to consider for placement of permanent facilities. These areas were coarsely evaluated based on the above criteria and known information in terms of recreational value (potential capacity, access to trails, visitor experience), cultural and natural resource issues, ease/relative cost of development, and operations. We aimed to develop a short list of areas with the best recreation potential and fewest issues to take into the environmental analysis stage. Following the public workshop, we will determine at which locations to conduct full-scale resource surveys and analysis for inclusion in the Draft EIR.

WHERE ARE WE IN THE PROCESS?

A new Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the renamed project was posted on May 9, 2006 with a closing date of June 30, 2006. CSP is officially in the scoping stage of the project and is seeking public and agency input with respect to the location and design for the replacement facilities. Next, CSP will begin to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the project that analyzes and compares various alternatives.



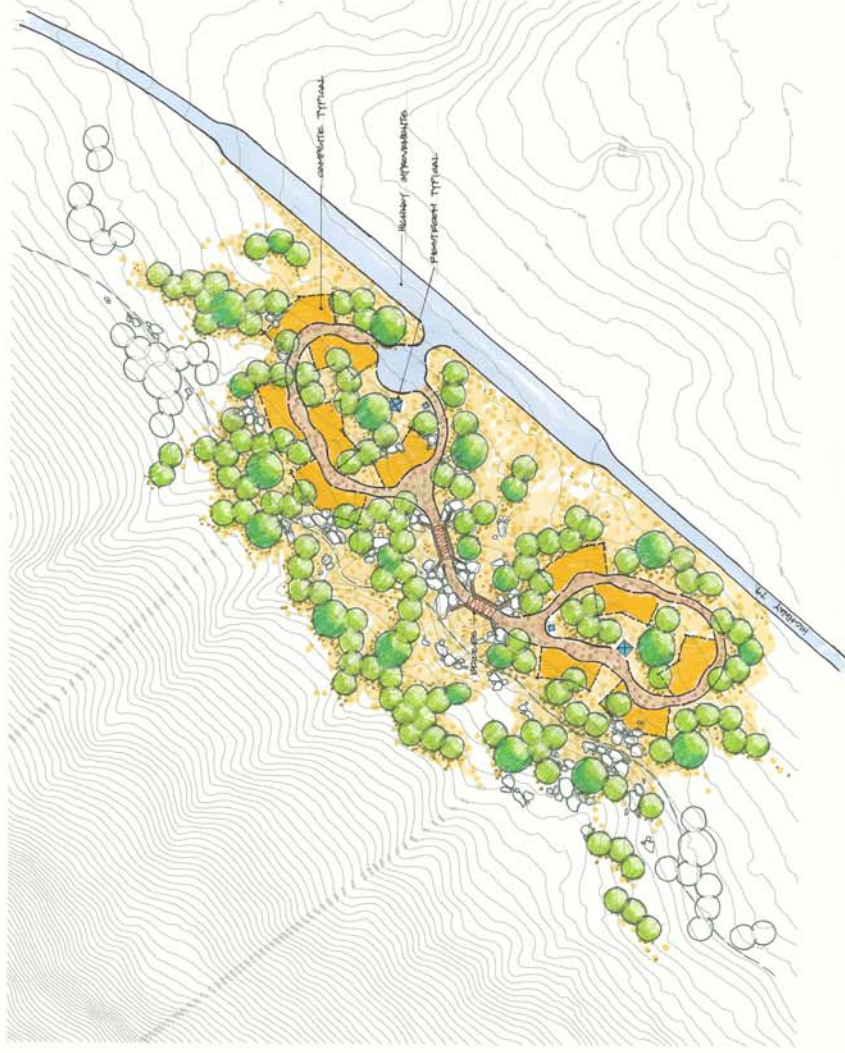
ARROWMAKERS RIDGE CONCEPT – STATION 2

FACT SHEET: *(Please note that the following items are based on very preliminary site planning, constraints, and needs analysis for the site. Further site analysis may require changes.)*

- # of campsites (including host site): 11 max.
- Acreage: 12
- Facility Improvements
 - ♦ Restroom: 2 vault toilets, no shower
 - ♦ Water Supply: limited
 - ♦ Power Supply: photovoltaic
 - ♦ Manure disposal stations: 2
- Roadways
 - ♦ Bridges within campground: 2
 - ♦ Aggregate surface: +/- 1,800 linear feet (width may vary in some areas to allow for vehicle pull-out)
 - ♦ Paved surface/aprons: +/- 1,500 linear feet – will require collaboration with Caltrans (accel. & decel./turn lanes, highway easement constraints...)
- Trail Access
 - ♦ Access to *West Side Trail*
- Location
 - ♦ Along west side of Highway 79
- Additional Site Notes
 - ♦ Partial shade for camping areas, immediately available (additional planting likely necessary as visual screening to/from roadway)
- Known Resource Issues to be Addressed
 - ♦ Lies within the Pilcha Cultural Preserve, but not within immediate proximity of the resources for which the Preserve was designated. General Plan amendment and Preserve boundary modification would be required.
 - ♦ May affect traditional cultural use area
 - ♦ Affects to scenic view-shed from Highway 79

Arrowmaker's Ridge

Equestrian Family Campground - Conceptual Plan





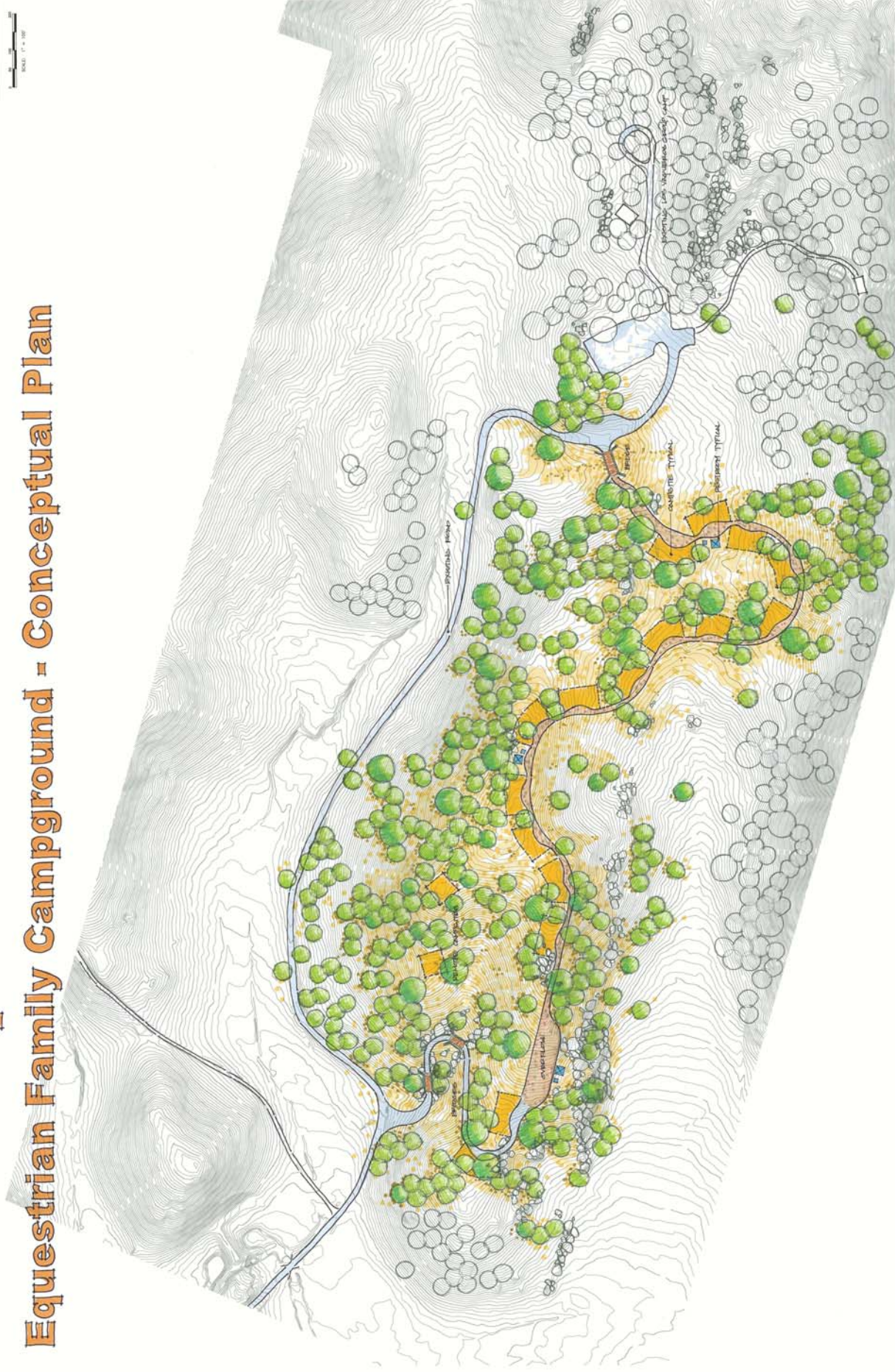
LOS VAQUEROS NORTH CONCEPT – STATION 3

FACT SHEET: *(Please note that the following items are based on very preliminary site planning, constraints, and needs analysis for the site. Further site analysis may require changes.)*

- # of campsites (including host site): 16-20 with an additional 2 walk-in/remote sites
- Acreage: 22
- Facility Improvements
 - ♦ Restroom: 3 vault toilets
 - ♦ Combo. (toilet/shower) Building: 1
 - ♦ Water Supply: limited
 - ♦ Power Supply: photovoltaic
 - ♦ Manure disposal stations: 3
- Roadways
 - ♦ Bridges within campground: 3
 - ♦ Aggregate surface: +/- 4,000 linear feet (width may vary in some areas to allow for vehicle pull-out)
 - ♦ Paved surface/aprons: +/- 1,500 linear feet
- Trail Access
 - ♦ May need trail re-route around camping areas
 - ♦ Connects to multiple trail routes (including the *California Riding & Hiking Trail*)
- Location
 - ♦ Close proximity to existing Los Vaqueros Group Horse Camp – aids efficiency of park patrol/service staff
 - ♦ Camping located on/along knoll, in a rustic setting, & situated around existing landscape features
 - ♦ Most sites provide near-180° views
- Additional Site Notes
 - ♦ Shade for potential camping areas immediately available (many trees on this site survived the fire, few will need to be planted)
 - ♦ Site will require major grading
 - ♦ Site will require utility upgrades for combo. building
- Known Resource Issues to be Addressed
 - ♦ Lies within traditional cultural use area
 - ♦ Archaeological sites are within proposed campground area.
 - ♦ A small portion encroaches on boundary for Ah-Ha-Kwe-Ah-Mac/Stonewall Mine Cultural Preserve. Will require minor boundary adjustment.
 - ♦ Lies within Cuyamaca Meadow Natural Preserve, but can likely avoid listed plants for which the Preserve was designated. Preserve boundary modification would be required.
 - ♦ Listed plants in vicinity include Parish's meadowfoam and Cuyamaca larkspur.
 - ♦ Wetland meadows

Los Vaqueros

Equestrian Family Campground - Conceptual Plan





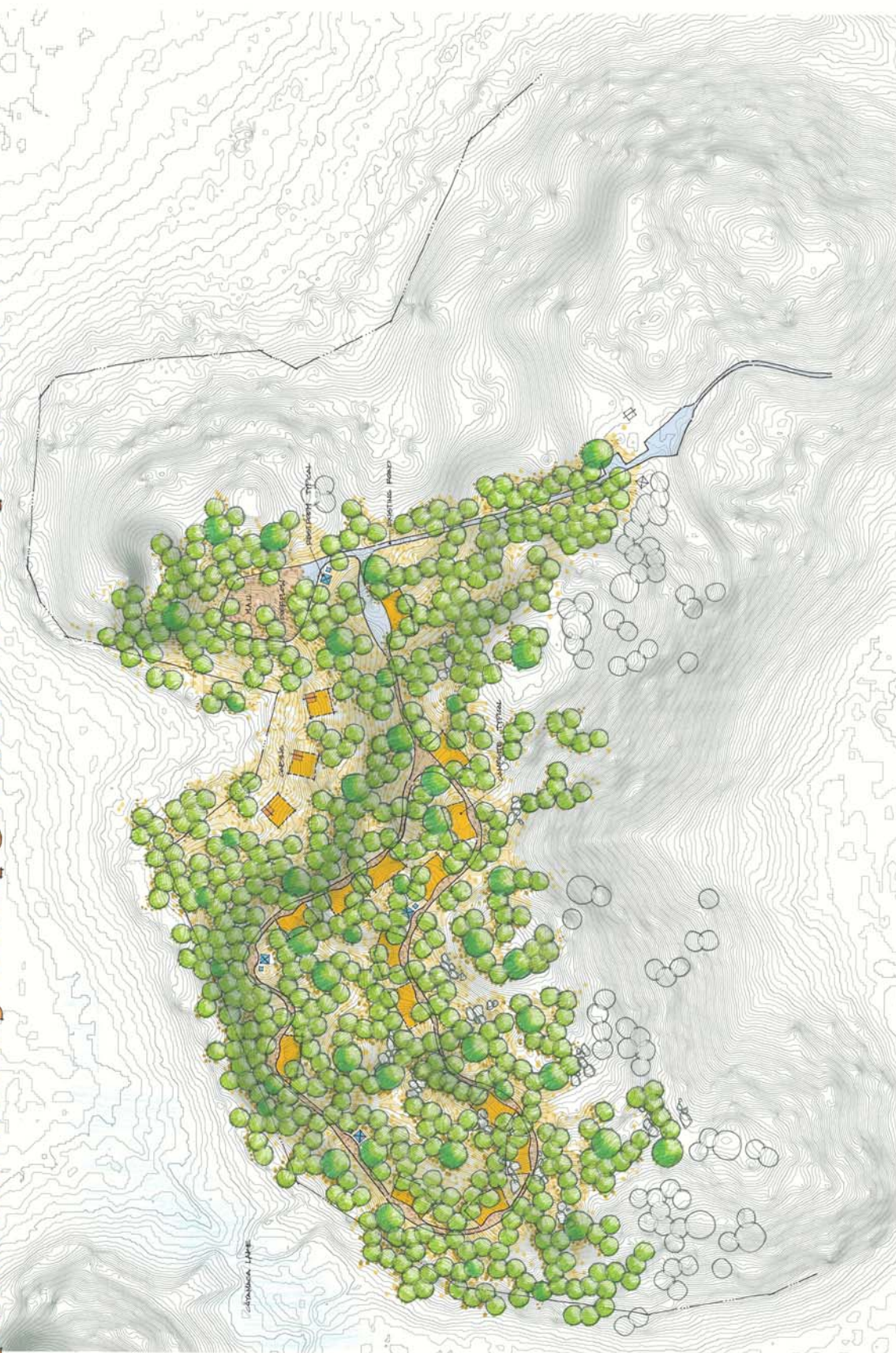
STONEWALL MINE/TAPAWINGO CONCEPT – STATION 4

FACT SHEET: *(Please note that the following items are based on very preliminary site planning, constraints, and needs analysis for the site. Further site analysis may require changes.)*

- # of campsites (including host site): 14-17 (potential for adding 3-5 rustic cabin sites)
- Acreage: 24
- Facility Improvements
 - ♦ May enable area for re-creation of 3-5 mining cabins (rented for overnight use)
 - ♦ Restroom: 4 vault toilets
 - ♦ Combo. (toilet/shower) Building: 1
 - ♦ Water Supply: limited
 - ♦ Power Supply: possible connection to existing &/or photovoltaic
 - ♦ Manure disposal stations: 4
- Roadways
 - ♦ Aggregate surface: +/- 3,000 linear feet (width may vary in some areas to allow for vehicle pull-out)
 - ♦ Paved surface/aprons: +/- 1,000 linear feet
- Trail Access
 - ♦ Close proximity to multiple trails including the *California Riding & Hiking Trail*
 - ♦ May require some trail re-routing
- Location
 - ♦ Close proximity to Cuyamaca Lake
 - ♦ Provides camping experience similar to that of Los Caballos campground
- Additional Site Notes
 - ♦ Shade for potential camping areas immediately available
 - ♦ Abundant opportunities for interpretation (historic mining)
 - ♦ Site will require utility upgrades for combo. building
- Known Resource Issues to be Addressed
 - ♦ Lies within the Ah-Ha-Kwe-Ah-Mac/Stonewall Mine Cultural Preserve, & the Cuyamaca City town site. A determination will have to be made as to whether camping is an appropriate use within the Preserve boundary or if a boundary modification can be justified.
 - ♦ Will require mitigation for unknown quantity of buried cultural features & artifacts.
 - ♦ Water quality issues relative to adjacent Lake Cuyamaca.



Equestrian Family Campground - Conceptual Plan





TULLOCH RANCH CONCEPT – STATION 5

FACT SHEET: *(Please note that the following items are based on very preliminary site planning, constraints, and needs analysis for the site. Further site analysis may require changes.)*

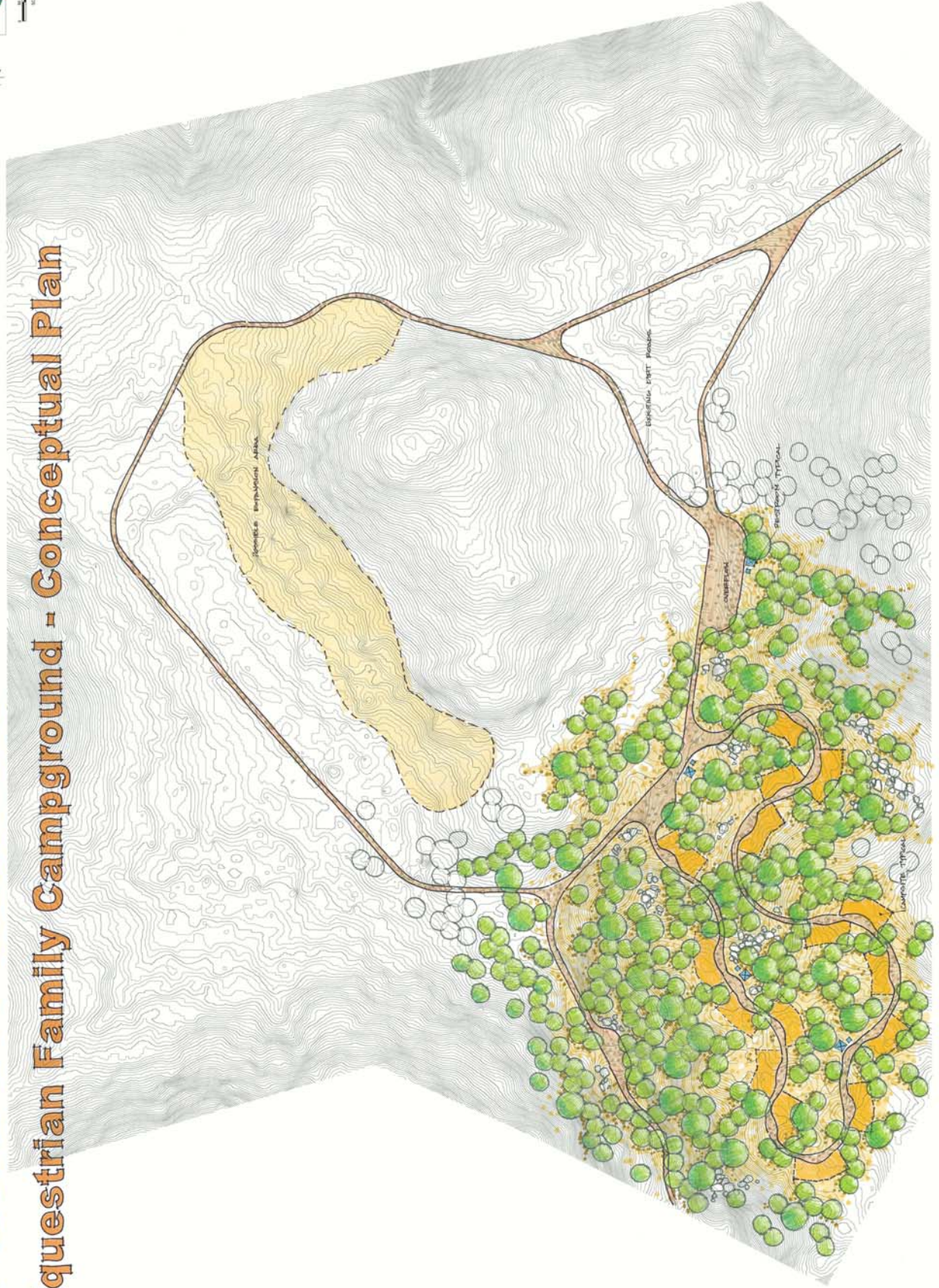
- # of campsites (*including host site*): 16-19 (potential for adding 20-25 sites in expansion area)
- Acreage: 20 (possibly 15 more with expansion area)
- Facility Improvements
 - ♦ Restroom: 4 vault toilets, no shower
 - ♦ Water Supply: limited?
 - ♦ Power Supply: photovoltaic
 - ♦ Manure disposal stations: 4
- Roadways
 - ♦ Additional/overflow parking: 4-5 rigs
 - ♦ Access to site from Highway 79 unsafe due to limited sight distance at current entrance location. May access from State Route 1 (Sunrise Highway) instead.
 - ♦ Aggregate surface: +/- 8,000 linear feet (width may vary in some areas to allow for vehicle pull-out)
 - ♦ Paved surface/aprons: +/- 1,500 linear feet – will require collaboration with Caltrans (accel. & decel./turn lanes, highway easement constraints...)
- Trail Access
 - ♦ Will develop a short loop trail as part of project
 - ♦ May need to establish additional connector trails to nearby *California Riding and Hiking Trail* and *Pacific Crest Trail*
 - ♦ Connects to desert trails
- Location
 - ♦ Anza-Borrego Desert State Park® property; adjacent to view of the desert floor
 - ♦ Secluded camping experience – no other development nearby
 - ♦ Previously a ranching site & may foster interpretive opportunities related to previous use
- Additional Site Notes
 - ♦ Limited shade for camping areas immediately available. Will need to additional tree plantings
- Known Resource Issues to be Addressed
 - ♦ Amendment to General Plan for Anza-Borrego Desert State Park® will be required.
 - ♦ Listed plants in vicinity include Parish's meadowfoam and Cuyamaca larkspur.
 - ♦ Archaeological sites are within proposed campground area & along entrance road.
 - ♦ Water quality issues relative to wet meadows and Lake Cuyamaca from access road and drainage.

Tulloch Ranch

Equestrian Family Campground - Conceptual Plan



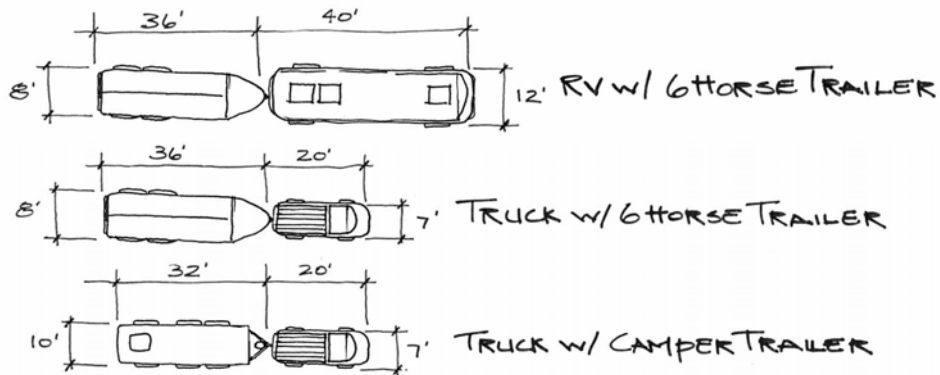
Scale 1" = 100'



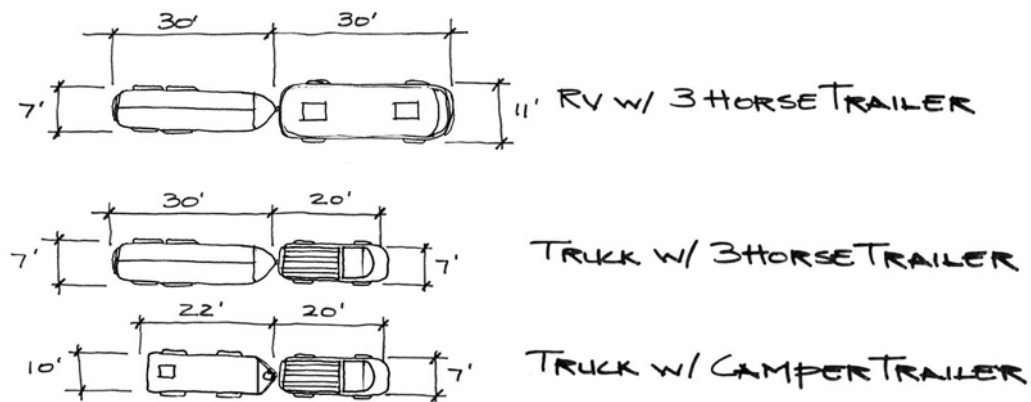


Vehicle Dimensions (approx.): Comparisons for Campground Design

LARGE VEHICLES AND TRAILERS



MEDIUM VEHICLES AND TRAILERS



SMALL VEHICLES AND TRAILERS

